

### AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

*Please amend the paragraph spanning lines 5-10 on page 9 of the specification, as follows:*

-- In at least one embodiment, the ferromagnetic sense layer **202** has a lower ~~coercivity~~ higher coercivity than the soft-reference layer **206**, and may be made from a material that includes, but is not limited to: Nickel Iron (NiFe), Nickel Iron Cobalt (NiFeCo), Cobalt Iron (CoFe), and alloys of such metals. In addition, both the soft-reference layer **206** and the sense layer **202** may be formed from multiple layers of materials. However, for conceptual simplicity and ease of discussion, each layer component is herein discussed as a single layer. --